



PRESS RELEASE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701
1-800-691-9987 • www.nass.usda.gov



Released: June 23, 2006

Media Contact: Bill Meyer, Tel # (208) 334-1507
nass-id@nass.usda.gov

Idaho Red Meat Production Down 30 Percent From Last Year

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for May 2006 totaled 22.7 million pounds, down 30 percent from last year according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. May production was up one percent from the 22.5 million pounds produced in April. Accumulated red meat production for the January-May 2006 period totaled 121.4 million pounds, down 7.7 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.05 billion pounds in May, up 9 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in May 2005. Beef production, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 11 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.04 million head, up 9 percent from May 2005. The average live weight was up 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,241 pounds. Veal production totaled 13.1 million pounds, 1 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 57,000 head, down 3 percent from May 2005. The average live weight was 2 pounds above last year, at 378 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.72 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.54 million head, 6 percent above May 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 271 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 16.3 million pounds, was up 10 percent from May 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 225,800 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 144 pounds, up 1 pound from May a year ago. January to May 2006 commercial red meat production was 19.1 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.